



11 High Gate Lane, West Hartford, CT 06107-1010
Phone/Fax 860.519.0023
www.ct-asbo.org

**Testimony Filed with the Education Committee For
HB6662 AA Implementing the Governor's Budget Recommendations for Education
February 22, 2023**

The Connecticut Association of School Business Officials offers the following comments for HB 6662.

HB6662 proposes to adjust the Excess Cost grant percentages of the current three-tiered threshold system to allow the State Department of Education (SDE) to expend the full appropriation beginning in FY 2023. It also ensures that the grant is capped within available appropriations in future fiscal years. Although we appreciate that the proposed percentage changes allow for the full appropriation to be expended, we are concerned the grant is capped.

This grant, which helps support our neediest students, has been significantly underfunded for many years, while the costs of providing special education services continue to grow. This combination of factors significantly compromises the ability of districts to provide adequate educational needs for **all** children. For these reasons, we strongly urge the Education Committee to recommend full funding of this important grant.

The education of our youth is a top priority for all of us. School officials work collaboratively with many stakeholders to maximize results that benefit both our students and our taxpayers. Proper funding of education at all levels is important to provide opportunities for successful outcomes.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important matter.

About us: The Connecticut Association of School Business Officials (CASBO) is a non-profit professional association that represents school business officials throughout the State of Connecticut. School business officials work closely with school boards, school superintendents, administrators, staff, public officials, and communities; and we are responsible for most aspects of school business and operations.